



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 183

February Session, 2006

House Bill No. 5676

House of Representatives, March 28, 2006

The Committee on General Law reported through REP. STONE, C. of the 9th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT LIMITING THE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL BY MINOR ON PRIVATE PROPERTY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2006*) (a) No person shall host
2 an event on public or private property at which alcoholic liquor is
3 consumed by or dispensed to a person under twenty-one years of age
4 unless such person under twenty-one years of age is accompanied by a
5 parent, guardian or spouse who is twenty-one years of age or older.

6 (b) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this
7 section shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars or
8 imprisoned not more than three months, or both.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	New section
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GL *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 07 \$	FY 08 \$
Judicial Dept.	GF - Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal
Various Criminal Justice Agencies	GF - Cost	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 07 \$	FY 08 \$
Municipal Police Departments	Potential Cost	Minimal	Minimal

Explanation

The bill makes it a crime, punishable by a fine of up to \$500 and/or imprisonment for up to three months, for any person to host an event on public or private property at which alcoholic liquor is consumed by or dispensed to a person under twenty-one years of age provided such person is not accompanied by a parent, guardian or spouse who is twenty-one years of age or older.

Based on the number of violations and offenses that occur under current law¹ which are similar in their circumstances to the activities prohibited under the bill, it is estimated that 100-200 offenses would be filed with the Superior Court annually resulting in about 50 convictions. It is anticipated that most of these offenders would be placed under probation supervision in the community but that a few may also be incarcerated. There are presently two offenders under supervision by the Department of Correction (one is incarcerated and the other located in a halfway house) for violating current law banning

¹ Illegal purchase of liquor by a minor, CGS 30-89(a); Possession by a Minor of Liquor in a Public Place, CGS 30-89(b); and Illegal Sale of Liquor to a Minor, CGS 30-86.

the sale of liquor to minors; in contrast, there are 52 offenders under probation supervision for the same crime.

On average, it costs the state \$2,150 to supervise an offender on probation in the community as compared to \$35,040 to incarcerate the offender (note that both figures include fringe benefits) annually. As the bill provides for a maximum period of imprisonment of three months for any offense, the potential cost associated with it would be one quarter the amounts provided above. Based on the total number of projected convictions each year (50) and the proportionate distribution of convicted offenders between prison and probation under current law, it is estimated that any annual cost to the Department of Correction or the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Department (which administers probation) would be minimal under the bill. Any revenue gain from criminal fines imposed under the bill is anticipated to be minimal on an annual basis.

Law enforcement agencies and the Division of Criminal Justice could accommodate enforcement of the bill's provisions without requiring additional appropriations.

The Out Years

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 09 \$	FY 10 \$	FY 11 \$
Judicial Dept.	GF - Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal
Various Criminal Justice Agencies	GF - Cost	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 09 \$	FY 10 \$	FY 11 \$
Municipal Police Departments	Potential Cost	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal

OLR Bill Analysis
HB 5676

***AN ACT LIMITING THE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL BY MINOR
ON PRIVATE PROPERTY.***

SUMMARY:

This bill prohibits hosting an event on public or private property at which alcoholic beverages are consumed by, or dispensed to, someone under 21 years old unless he is accompanied by a parent, guardian, or spouse who is 21 or older.

A violator is subject to up to three months in prison, a fine of up to \$500, or both.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2006

BACKGROUND

Related Legislation

HB 5211, favorably reported by the Judiciary Committee, also has provisions concerning drinking and possession of alcoholic beverages on private property.

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 13 Nay 2 (03/14/2006)